

## GOLD PLANK GOES OUT

Hill Defeated in the Committee on Platform.

## IN ALL-NIGHT SESSION

VOTE OF REJECTION WAS 35 TO 15.

Third Victory for Bryan—Bitterly Assailed by Senator Daniel—Fight Over Income Tax.

ST. LOUIS, July 8.—After a continuous session of six hours, the committee on resolutions perfected the platform and adjourned just before noon, instructing its subcommittee to arrange the draft for submission to the general committee at 6 o'clock this evening for report to the convention two hours later.

The platform is a compromise acceptable to both of the interests involved and was adopted unanimously by the committee. It may be said in general to have been a concession to the Bryan wing of the party without in any way stultifying the declarations of the conservatives. The absence of any pronouncement upon the financial question is an expression of the committee's impossibility of finding any declaration upon this subject acceptable to all.

During the watches of the long night in the committee room there were many dramatic scenes, not the least striking of which was the verbal encounter between Senator Hill and Mr. Bryan. Mr. Bryan, in his attack upon the platform, made one of his many attacks upon the gold standard plank as framed by the subcommittee. He was wrought up to high tension when, approaching the New York leader and shaking his finger dangerously near the nose of that gentleman, he exclaimed: "You ought to be a gold plank man to go with the gold candidate you are forcing upon the country."

Mr. Hill replied that he knew nothing as to Mr. Parker's monetary views. "Do you mean to say," demanded the Nebraskaan, "that you don't know Judge Parker's financial views?"

"I mean just that," responded Mr. Hill. "You have no knowledge on that subject."

"None."

"Have never asked him?"

"I have not. I have never sought to secure an expression of his views and he has never sought to convey them to me. I only know that he is a democrat and a high-minded and patriotic man, and I believe that he can be trusted implicitly on this, as upon other matters of public policy."

Mr. Bryan then demanded to know when the gold plank had been decided upon and why it had not been incorporated in the New York platform. Mr. Hill replied that the matter had first been discussed at the meeting of the delegation about ten days ago and that the declaration was the result of indecision on the part of the delegation then assembled.

**Gold Plank Knocked Out.**

At 4:40 a.m. the committee voted out the gold standard plank of the democratic platform by a vote of 35 to 15. This was the third victory for William J. Bryan during the all-night session of the committee. He had made two successful efforts early in the evening, and obtained majorities of the tariff plank on two separate votes.

An effort was made to secure a recess after the vote on the gold plank, but it failed, and the committee continued its work on other features of the platform.

The contest was one of the most interesting features of the convention.

**Fight on Income Tax.**

The main fight was upon a proposed income tax plank, providing for an amendment to the Constitution to meet the adverse decision of the Supreme Court upon the Wilson law. It was upon this amendment and the gold plank, the two propositions having been brought in conjunction, that Mr. Bryan made his strong fight.

Mr. Williams of Mississippi first offered the income tax amendment, and it was immediately taken up by the committee. Senator Hill, who stated that with such a plank in the platform New York could not be carried for the democratic nominees. He urged the adoption of a platform which would enable the democrats to win in doubtful states and elect their candidates.

Senator Daniel, in his opposition to the amendment, saying that he and many other democrats were seeking harmony and an adjustment of all differences, with a view of succeeding on a democratic platform.

Mr. Bryan then offered an income tax amendment, and made a speech in favor of it. He asserted that the amendment might be lost among the very rich, the democratic party ought to consider the great mass of the poor, who are the burden of taxation and the expense of the government.

**Sensor Daniel Vigorously Replies.**

Sensor Daniel replied to Bryan, and was very vigorous in his denunciation of the course the Nebraska man was pursuing. He said that he wanted to win, and desired a platform which would bring back to the democratic party the voters who had left him.

Mr. Bryan then pursued a course which Mr. Hill had been pursuing. He was tired of being forever in the minority, and insisted that it would be absurd for democrats, facing victory, to take any action which would mean defeat. To lose New York meant defeat.

Senator Daniel and Senator Tillman, while believing in an income tax, said that in view of the statement of the New York members of the committee, it would be wise to insist upon the income tax plank.

Sensor Bailey then asked unanimous consent to have both the income tax amendment and the gold standard plank dropped, but to this Mr. Hill objected, and there was a prolonged discussion. Mr. Hill taking a leading part in it.

**Mr. Hill's Plea.**

Mr. Hill began by saying that he was in the campaign not from personal motives, but because of his loyalty and enthusiasm for the democratic party. He hoped the party could cease its discussion and agree upon a platform in harmony with the views of the party generally. He was opposed to the insertion of an income-tax plank because he saw no necessity for making this new issue.

"I believe," he said, "it will hurt us, it will weaken our platform, but if the members of this committee think otherwise, it should go in; but the question of the gold standard is of far more importance."

Mr. Hill urged that if the gold plank was omitted the party would be placed in a false position. If the party was in favor of the free and unlimited coinage of silver, and the gold standard plank dropped, through no fault of the party, conditions had changed, and it had been proven that the gold standard plank was not a question. Although the republican platform declared in favor of gold, he pointed out that the democrats, in their platform, had said that the gold standard was not responsible for the change in conditions which made the gold standard desirable, but that it was the result of bad faith.

Speaking directly to the southern members of the committee, Mr. Hill recalled the time of reconstruction, and said he had always worked for democratic principles along democratic lines; that he had been the friend of the south in that trying period and since that time.

**Judge Parker's Views.**

Mr. Hill, in the course of his speech, talked at length of the personality of Judge Parker. He said that in the course of a conversation about ten days ago with the New York jurist the latter said, in reply to a question about the kind of platform the democrats should adopt: "I am entirely willing to leave that to the wisdom of the democratic party."

But while Mr. Hill did not assume at any time to speak for Judge Parker, the committee interpreted the inference of his

speech to be that Judge Parker favored the insertion of a gold plank.

Mr. Hill declared that the democrats could not possibly nominate a better man than Judge Parker, and spoke at some length upon a peculiar qualification for the office. He emphasized the fact that Judge Parker was in no sense an active candidate for the nomination and that he had not dictated anything regarding the platform.

"I do not think it is improper for us to have a man to win," continued Mr. Hill. "We have stood defeats in the past, and we can stand them again, it is true. This contest, for me, means that I shall devote myself from now until November to the campaign. I shall leave my business, but I shall do it gladly, and I shall work hard and unceasingly for the democrat nominee. But I think the platform is of the greatest importance, especially the gold standard plank."

He reiterated that he thought an income tax plank would be a mistake, but added that the gold plank was of far greater importance.

In conclusion, he said: "Nor should one of these planks be traded for the other. I earnestly hope each will be taken up separately and considered on its individual merits."

Mr. Hill was applauded at the conclusion of his speech.

**Bryan Replies to Hill.**

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Senator Carmack of Tennessee made a plea especially for the south, and said that democratic success was necessary in the face of the republican policy of imperialism. Its recent platform was dangerous to the south. He hoped some agreement could be reached which would bring to the support of the democratic south the democratic party of the east. As to the money question, that was for the time settled, and he urged that the matter be not injected into the coming campaign as a disturbing element.

Mr. Shively of Indiana followed much the same line. If this money question was brought into the campaign, he said, it would raise a serious division in the democratic party, and especially in Indiana. Several congressional districts would be endangered.

Mr. Finney of Wisconsin was opposed to the gold plank, and favored the declaration of the Williams platform. If this committee were so much divided, how was it possible to prevent a division among the seven million democratic voters.

**Daniel Attacks Bryan.**

Shortly before 4 o'clock Senator Daniel created a sensation in the committee by an attack upon Mr. Bryan, which soon evoked cries for order from several members.

Sensor Daniel, who some time before called Senator Tillman to the chair, began by saying he questioned the propriety of a man whom the democrats had honored and under whose leadership the party had twice been defeated entering the platform.

"The silver question was a question in Virginia ten years before the gentleman from Nebraska discovered it. But conditions have changed in the last few years, and heroic changes demand heroic remedies. We must consider New England, New York and that section of the country."

Again facing Mr. Bryan, Senator Daniel said: "He has reviled every man whom any state has recommended for the presidency, and so far as I have been able to learn, has as yet presented no candidate of his own."

At this point Senator Daniel was interrupted with cries of "Order."

Senator Tillman, who was acting chairman, demanded order and said: "Well, we have order before this meeting degenerates into a conversational row."

Mr. Bryan asked that Senator Daniel be allowed to proceed, and the latter resumed his speech by saying that he had not intended to enter into personalities. Continuing, the senator said:

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